

[25 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(d) the policy of Government in making purchases of branded items from the reputed manufactures or their authorised distributors or through tender?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) The news-item has drawn the attention towards the use of poor quality stationery items *i.e.* paper and ink in the Government Departments which would have deteriorating effect on the preservation of public records. The Government is seized of the problem and has already issued guidelines to various Ministries/Departments of Government of India for using BIS marked paper and ink for creating records of permanent nature.

(c) National Archives of India requested the Kendriya Bhandar & Super Bazar to procure good quality paper of BIS (ISI) mark so that the same could be procured by the Ministries/Departments in creating records of permanent nature.

(d) Stationery items are procured through Kendriya Bhandar and Super Bazar which are authorized distributors for stationery items.

Majull Tourism Resort Project

4407. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 343 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th April, 2000 and state:

(a) whether Majuli Tourism Resort Project has so far been received;

(b) if so, details thereof, indicating phase-wise amount allocated and sanctioned for implementation;

(c) whether the implementing agency has been finalized; and

(d) when the actual project construction is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has already sanctioned an amount of Rs. 10.00

lakhs and released Rs. 5.00 lakhs to carry out feasibility study for development of Majuli Island as a tourist resort. The feasibility study report is not received.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Heritage hotels set up in the country

4408. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

SHRI ANANTA SETHI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of heritage hotels set up in the country;
- (b) the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether Government are encouraging the promotion of heritage hotels; and
- (d) if so, the details of response to those incentives in every State?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The Department of Tourism has classified 77 hotels under Heritage category upto April 2001.

(b) The State wise details of Heritage Hotels may be seen as per list given in the Statement. (*See below*)

(c) In order to encourage Heritage Hotels all over the country, the Government extends various incentives to the classified Heritage Hotels and approved Heritage Hotel Project, including Income Tax Exemption under Section 80-IA and 80-HHD of the Income Tax Act 1961, Interest Subsidy at a higher rate of 5% on loan taken from TFCI, IFCI, State Financial Corporation and State Industrial Development Corporation, import of special items, concessional custom duty on import etc.

(d) The response to the initiatives announced by the Government so far has been well received as several promoters are converting the old palaces, havelies, castles, forts and residences built prior to 1950 into Heritage Hotels.